

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT

Weekly COVID-19 Update

March 23, 2021



WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

CSHD Expands Vaccination Efforts: This week CSHD is expanding our vaccination efforts to include all groups in [Phase 1b](#). This includes those:

- Aged 65+
- Aged 16-64 with high risk health conditions
- Phase 1b essential workers

Invitations for these clinics will come through email or phone call. We will post all extra appointments on our [website](#) at 12:00pm the day before a clinic. Please review the specific clinic eligibility requirements before you register for an appointment. If you do not meet the specific clinic eligibility requirements, your appointment will be cancelled.



Federal Retail Pharmacy Partnership: VDH announced on Wednesday, March 17th that [Federal Retail Pharmacy](#) partners will expand within [Phase 1b](#) to offer vaccines to individuals who are 16-64 with high-risk medical conditions, as well as frontline essential workers, including:

- Police, Fire, and Hazmat
- Corrections and homeless shelters
- Food and Agriculture (including veterinarians)
- Manufacturing
- Grocery stores (including farmers' market food vendors)
- Public transit (including rideshare drivers)
- Mail carriers (USPS and private)
- Officials needed to maintain continuity of government (including judges and public facing judicial workers)
- Clergy/faith leaders
- Janitorial/cleaning

To read the complete press release, please click [here](#).

Virginia Statewide COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration System: All Virginians, regardless of phase phase eligibility, can pre-register for the COVID-19 vaccine at vaccinate.virginia.gov or by calling the **Virginia COVID-19 Vaccine Information Call Center 1-877-VAX-IN-VA (1-877-829-4682)**.

Verify and Update Your Pre-Registration Record: VDH added increased functionality to the pre-registration system this week and Virginians can now change or edit their pre-registration information at vaccinate.virginia.gov. It is important that everyone checks that they are pre-registered and verifies all of the information in their profile. There is information that CSHD did not ask in our pre-registration surveys that needs to be added to your record in the statewide system.

CSHD Vaccination Numbers: We are publishing our daily vaccination numbers on [Facebook](#) and on our [website](#) everyday at 12:00pm. These numbers only reflect COVID-19 vaccinations performed by the Central Shenandoah Health District and are not a reflection of total COVID-19 vaccines given within the health district and are approximate as of date received. For total COVID-19 vaccine distribution numbers, please visit the [VDH COVID-19 Vaccine Dashboard](#).

Amended Executive Order 72

Executive Order 72 has been further amended. Effective April 1:

- Limits on social gatherings will increase from 10 to 50 for indoor gatherings, and from 25 to 100 for outdoors gatherings.
- Limits for entertainment and public amusement venues will remain at 30% occupancy, but cap for indoor venues will increase from 250 to 500 persons and the cap for outdoor gatherings will be removed.
- The number of spectators allowed at recreational sporting events will increase from 25 to 100 indoors, and from 250 to 500 outdoors, and remain limited at 30% capacity.
- Graduation and commencements will be limited to 500 persons indoors and 5,000 persons outdoors.

For more information, click [here](#).

Updated Physical Distancing Guidelines for K-12 Schools

CDC updated its K–12 school guidance to reflect the latest science on physical distance between students in classrooms. CDC now recommends that, with universal masking, students should maintain a distance of at least 3 feet in classroom settings.

- In elementary schools, CDC recommends all students remain at least 3 feet apart in classrooms where mask use is universal — regardless of whether community transmission is low, moderate, substantial, or high.
- In middle and high schools, CDC also recommends students should be at least 3 feet apart in classrooms where mask use is universal and in communities where transmission is low, moderate, or substantial.
- Middle school students and high school students should be at least 6 feet apart in communities where transmission is high, if cohorting is not possible. [Cohorting](#) is when groups of students are kept together with the same peers and staff throughout the school day to reduce the risk for spread throughout the school. This is because older students are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 and spread it than younger students.

For more information about the changes, click [here](#).

District COVID-19 Activity

Cases have been increasing in our region (Northwest) for the last 10 days and cases are considered to be fluctuating. Even though cases are fluctuating, it does not mean that COVID-19 isn't in our community. It is still important to take preventative measures. You can explore individual locality metrics [here](#). To learn more about the VDH Pandemic Metrics, click [here](#).

PREVENTION REMINDERS

The COVID-19 vaccine is here, but we still need to focus on flattening the curve.

Watch your distance | Wash your hands | Wear a mask

- All people in Virginia should **stay home as much as possible** and **practice social distancing** to reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19.
- **Wear a face mask to protect yourself** from COVID-19.
- **Download [COVIDWISE](#)**, Virginia's free exposure notification app.
- **Answer the call!** If a Case Investigator or Contact Tracer calls you, you should answer the call. Talking to the health department is an important step in slowing the spread of COVID-19.
- **Who is in your Social Bubble or Pod?** As COVID-19 continues to spread in our community, it is important to think about who is in your social bubble and who might be in their bubble. Check out this [VDH document](#) for more information.



COVID-19 HEALTH EDUCATION

CSHD COVID-19 Community Call-In

Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine and vaccination efforts in our district? Join us for our weekly COVID-19 Community Call-In! Please share with your community. This will replace our twice weekly "Office Hours."

Spanish language call:

- Every Wednesday from 6:00pm-6:45pm

English language call:

- Every Wednesday from 7:00pm-7:45pm

Dial **1-844-992-4726** and enter the access code **132 173 5589** when prompted. When asked for attendee ID, press #. To unmute yourself during the call press *6.

CENTRAL SHENANDOAH HEALTH DISTRICT

WEEKLY COVID-19 COMMUNITY CALL-IN

Do you have questions about the COVID-19 vaccine? Join our health educators for a weekly call! This is a 45-minute Q&A session to ask questions about the COVID-19 vaccine.

WHEN (English): Wednesdays from 7:00pm-7:45pm

WHEN (Spanish): Wednesdays from 6:00pm-6:45pm

HOW: Join by phone

CALL IN AT: 1-844-992-4726

ACCESS ID: 132 173 5589

When asked for an attendee ID, press #

Dial the number above and enter the access code when prompted. Please mute upon entry and unmute when you have a question.



COVID-19 DATA BREAKDOWN

As reported to VDH, by date of lab report. May differ from other sources, due to reporting lags. Negative numbers indicate data corrections, since March 2020. More data can be found [here](#). Note: The daily case count only reflects the cases reported 3/23/2021. For daily case counts throughout the week, please visit the VDH [website](#).

	Daily case count*	New cases, 7-day avg	Total cases	Total hospitalizations	Total deaths
Augusta	8	7	5,342	151	66
Staunton City	1	1	2,506	80	66
Waynesboro City	5	3	2,213	69	34
Rockbridge	2	3	1,433	43	44
Lexington City	1	1	1,149	22	31
Buena Vista City	0	1	861	20	19
Rockingham	20	15	6,280	354	102
Harrisonburg City	11	20	6,077	176	95
Bath	1	0	249	7	10
Highland	0	0	99	1	1
Totals	49	51	26,209	923	468

*As of 10:00am on 3/23

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here!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19, VISIT:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia/>

